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10.00	"	10	"
11.30	"	10	"
12.45 p.m.	to 1.15 p.m.	10	"
1.15	"	10	"
1.45	"	10	"
2.15	"	10	"
2.45	"	10	"
3.15	"	10	"
3.45	"	10	"
4.15	"	10	"
4.45	"	10	"
5.00	"	10	"
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11.30	"	10	"
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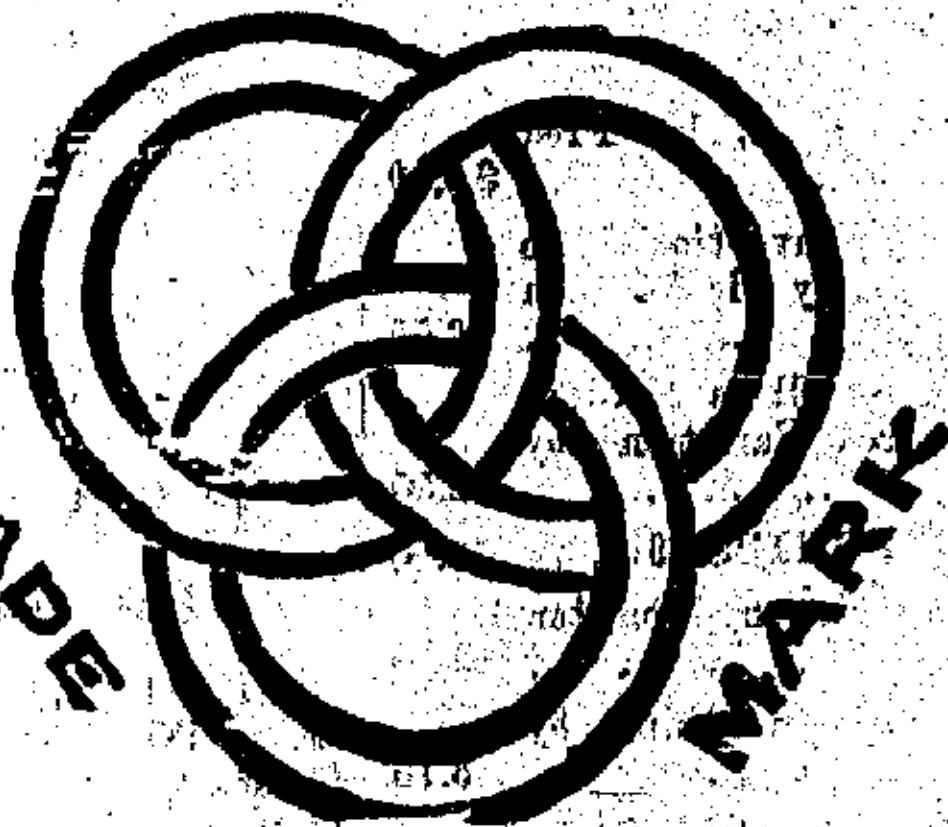
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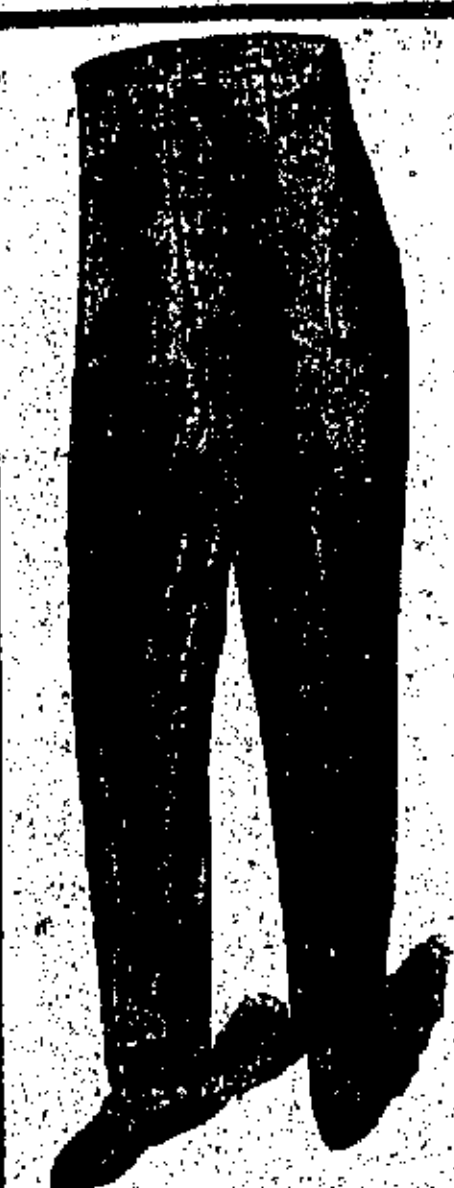
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with wounds that discharge or otherwise
surrounded with inflammation and
swollen, that when you press your finger on
the inflamed part it leaves the impression
of a hole, under the skin you have poison, which
defies all the remedies you have tried. Per-
haps your knee are swollen, the joints being
affected, the same with the ankles, sores
which the skin may be discoloured, or there
may be wounds; the disease, if allowed to com-
mence, will deprive you of the power to walk.
You may have attended various hospitals, and
been told your case is hopeless, or advised to
submit to amputation; but do not; try the
Grasshopper treatment, which is a sure and
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MACAO NOTES.

[FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.]

Macao, April 2nd.

Two cases of alleged murder were re-
ported yesterday. One occurred at noon
at Rua Central. The victim died in
hospital, and his assailant has not yet
been captured. The other case took
place near the steamer wharves at about
eleven o'clock at night. The victim fell
or was thrown into the water and was
found with his head buried in the mud.
An arrest has been made.

Our Cathedral has offered seats for
public subscription—first session, \$3 per
annum; and second session, \$1.50. More
than three hundred seats have been taken.
During the Holy Week services the in-
terior of the sacred edifice will be illu-
minated by means of powerful electric
lights.

The junk communication between this
city and Sinc-ki, etc., is interrupted by
reason of some valuable cargo having been
found on board the junks, which have
been heavily fined. The dislocation of
the service causes great inconvenience to
many Chinese of this city who have gone
to their native places to worship at the
tombs of their ancestors.

Owing to lack of rain there is a dearth
of water in the city. If the drought
continues much longer we may experi-
ence a water famine. The water-boats
that bring supplies from the Ribeira
Grande take the whole day for the job,
for even in that spot the water is scarce.

Some surprise and apprehension is
felt as the action of the Electric Light
Co. in erecting very high bamboo stands
in some streets for their wires. The
sooner permanent supports are erected
the better.

GERMANY'S SHIPPING.

THE METHODS OF HERR BALLIN.

In the course of a paper read in Lon-
don before a meeting of the Royal
Colonial Institute, Mr. Wilfred Powell
(late H.B.M. Consul-General, Philadel-
phia, U.S.A.) stated—

"I should like to speak of that re-
markable man, Albrecht Ballin, the pre-
sident of the Hamburg-American Steam-
ship Line. I believe he was originally
a Russian Jew, and started as an em-
igrant runner from Russia for the old
Hansa line. By some means he succeeded
in purchasing two steamships which he
put in opposition to the Hansa line in
the emigrant and cargo business of
North America. The Hansa line sug-
gested that Ballin should, instead of
running against them, unite his forces
with theirs. Ballin was willing provided
that he was made a director of the new
company, which was then named the
Hamburg-America line. This line was
started with four or five ships in (I be-
lieve) 1870. At the commencement of
this war the Hamburg-American Com-
pany had 67 separate lines of shipping
all over the world, in most cases running
in competition with British steamship
lines. This vast increase has been ac-
complished in nearly every case by
instituting a freight war, which forced
the separate German lines to capitulate.
I will quote one case, and it is that
of a neutral shipping line of American
steamers, who were put out of business
by Ballin, the clever but unscrupulous.
This American line was started to carry
American goods from American ports to
Hamburg and Holland. They were slow
boats at low freight rates. Ballin saw that
this might interfere with the monopoly
of the Hamburg-American line, but
being bound by the agreement of the
so-called 'North Atlantic Pool' that
freight rates of the steamship line be-
longing to the Pool could not be raised
or lowered without the consent of the
whole Pool, he therefore knew that the
Hamburg-American boats could not enter
into competition with the lower freight
rates of the new American line. He caused
his agents in Hamburg to start a new
line in their name in opposition to the
American boats at a nominally indepen-
dent rate. Ballin in reality providing
means. The *modus operandi* employed
by him to kill the American line was as
follows:—Say the American boats char-
tered 20s. a ton the German lines cut under
them for 18s. a ton, and so continued re-
ducing their freight rates below those
of the American company each time that
the latter had to come down to meet the
reduction. The German boats on each
occasion they sailed for the United
States, received from the Hamburg-
American steamship wharves, surrepti-
tiously a half cargo of goods nominally
left by the Hamburg-American line on
account of want of space, at 40s. a ton.
This trick soon enabled the German boats
to drive the American company out of
existence."

EDUCATION IN A DEMOCRACY.

MODERN UNIVERSITIES.

In a lecture before the annual Con-
ference of Educational Associations at the
University of London, Professor Gilbert
Murray, who took for his subject "An
Educated Nation," said he was suspi-
cious of all criticism which had its birth
in war time, a time of haste and passion
and concealment of facts, because they
must be concealed from the enemy; a
time of fretted nerves when almost any
folly would pass muster if it served to
satisfy a hungry emotion. He had read
a good deal of criticism upon the work
of national education during the war
and the most incompetent had been in-
cluded, making allowance for their
helpful perhaps, making allowance for
their extreme bitterness, was in the book
called "England" by the German his-
torian Eduard Meyer, the general effect
of which on his mind was indignation on
behalf of his maligned mother country.
We might be bad, but we were certainly
not so bad as was made out, and he
would undertake to make out a case not
much weaker against any other nation
he knew anything about.

We were now improving, or were before
war broke out. Even in our public
schools and again, the difficulty of re-
ligious differences we had made much
progress since the Bill of 1902. Neither
Government nor nation had stood still,
and the best work had been a older,
deeper-rooted schools.

It had been charged against our nation-
al system that we spent too much time
on classics and literature and that we
were beaten by German concentration on
science. The charge was the reverse of
the truth. Secondary education in Ger-
many was far more classical than ours;
they had far more of compulsory Greek
and Latin. Just before the war, out of
400,000 boys receiving secondary educa-
tion in Germany, 340,000 were at schools
where Latin was compulsory and 170,000
were at schools where compulsion covered
both Greek and Latin. It was not true
that the purely modern German schools
gave more time to science than did our
secondary schools.

EVIL OF CLASS DISTINCTIONS.
Our main fault was that we taught,
not by standard of intellectual capacity,
but by distinction of class, upper class
boys in our public schools and univer-
sities being over-dosed with classics and
literature and often compelled to learn
Greek whether intellectually fitted for
it or not; while boys in the middle and
lower classes were almost absolutely de-
barred from the possibility of studying
the classics at all. The two evils could
be cured by the same remedy—allowing
the youth of all classes the education for
which they were intellectually suited.

The charge against us of neglect of
modern language was rather disgracefully
true. Many Englishmen were actually
ashamed of speaking a foreign language.
No doubt many could read French and
perhaps many could read German, but
few would speak either. The ignorance
was partly due to knowledge of our own
language being widely spread, and to the
fact that our vast literature satisfied
literary curiosity. German and French
girls and boys worked a good deal harder
than ours and demanded less pleasure and
amusement. Our standards of comfort,
pleasure, and expenditure at any rate
among the richer classes—were probably
the highest known in the history of the
world. It was not, as a rule, vicious
pleasure and in itself, was to a large
extent healthy and innocent, but it
occupied too large a space in life. He did
not apply this criticism to the working
classes, but he suspected that the same
spirit, with modifications due to circum-
stances, ran through the husbanding of our
vital powers.

In elementary schools we required above
all smaller classes, and teachers with real
culture behind them.
The bursary system was not the best
method of selection. In the upper classes
there was need of more work and less play;
and in secondary schools some larger
differentiation in teaching was needed,
more or less such as they had in Germany,
so that both the scientific and humanist
needs of the country could be supplied.
We needed further development of medical
inspection and care for health, and more
supervision and help for boys and girls
after leaving school, partly by continua-
tion classes and partly by clubs.

THE NEW UNIVERSITIES.
Yet when he looked inside England and
used his personal experience he saw hope-
ful signs on every side. The demand for
education was a real, living demand. It
was being met by an increase in secondary
schools and by a wonderful growth of
modern universities which were producing
young men and women of a really high
and disinterested standard of life. No one
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HONGKONG MAGISTRACY.
OPIUM.

Sentence of nine months' imprisonment was passed by Mr. Wood on a Chinese who was charged with the unlawful possession of 110 taels of opium, and also with offering a bribe of \$100 to the Indian constable who arrested him. The latter charge was withdrawn on the application of Inspector Brazil.

SHOCKING CRUELTY.

Mr. Melbourne sentenced a Chinese woman to six weeks' hard labour for cruelty to a baby which she had purchased from a coolie woman. It was stated that the defendant applied burning joss sticks and matches to the baby's body and face, and the infant was so severely injured that it had to be removed to the Government Civil Hospital for treatment. The defendant pleaded guilty to the charge.

CONTRACTORS' OFFENCES.

The fact that a stove was placed in some premises without authority led to the owner of the premises being summoned before Mr. Melbourne for this breach of the regulations.

Mr. J. H. Gardiner, who appeared to defend, pleaded guilty and asked for a nominal fine.

Mr. Edwards, of the Public Works Department, said the authorities had been put to a good deal of trouble as a result of contractors not following approved plans, and it was decided to bring this case.

A fine of \$5 was imposed.

FRAUD ON BANK OF CANTON.

The Chinese "doctor," who is alleged to be one of the conspirators in the fraud by which the Bank parted with \$10,000, and subsequently had to again pay this amount to the rightful owner, a poor Chinese widow, after an appeal in the Supreme Court, was again before Mr. Wood yesterday.

Mr. A. M. Preston, who is prosecuting, asked for a formal remand, as he was expecting further arrests.

Defendant asked for bail, stating that he wished to see a doctor.

Mr. Wood mentioned that there was a doctor in the goal, and then defendant stated that he was getting old and had "formed certain habits."

Bail was subsequently fixed at \$10,000.

THE PREACHER.

You cannot preach in the streets of Hongkong without a permit. Before Mr. Melbourne yesterday a Chinese preacher was summoned for preaching without a permit and also with failing to move on when ordered to do so.

Inspector Brazil stated that the man was ordered to move on, having attracted a large "congregation," but, after moving away, he returned again in a few minutes, followed by the same large crowd. It was necessary to have a permit before one could preach in the street. These preachers attracted large crowds each evening with their eloquence, chiefly in connection with medicines for all ills, but such medical preaching was only a cover for political propaganda.

A fine of \$2 was imposed.

THE QUALITY OF MILK.

Wong Tsing Po, a dairyman of 100, Wellington Street, was summoned for selling milk alleged to be lacking in the required substance, on March 15th.

Mr. Leo d'Almada, on behalf of defendant, pleaded not guilty, and also said that the analyst's report only showed a small percentage of fat below the quantity required, and that shortage, he said, could not be explained.

Inspector Hill, of the Sanitary Department, spoke to buying a sample of milk from the defendant's dairy. He asked for some fresh cow's milk, and paid 10 cents for the sample. Witness explained that the milk had been taken for the purpose of analysis, and the usual separating process was adopted.

Cross-examined by Mr. d'Almada, witness said that as far as he knew the defendant's dairy business was quite properly carried in. As to the small percentage of fat, 10 per cent., stated to be missing from the milk, witness remarked that he could not say whether this created a danger; he would probably drink the milk himself and not know that anything was the matter. There was a difference in the quality of milk drawn in the morning to that drawn at mid-day or in the evening. In his opinion the

(Continued at foot of next column.)

SPORT.

ASSOCIATION FOOTBALL.

HONGKONG LEAGUE.

H.K.F.C. v. ROYAL ENGINEERS.

The meeting of these teams yesterday in the final of the Hongkong League produced a splendid game, full of incident. There were several changes in both teams, McNicoll and Grimmett coming into the Club team, and Strange and Lucas, two recent arrivals from home, turning out for the Engineers.

The Club went away with a burst, and the left wing had a chance to score but did not take it. They pressed again, and Coxon headed away in the goalmouth, and a few moments later was given an opportunity but kicked too hard and lost control of the ball. The Sappers then took up the running, and, after Black had headed away, Railton cleared. McTavish put the ball nicely in front of Stalker, but the latter was given offside. Black, who played a magnificent game for the Club, effected several splendid clearances, and, following one of these, the Club attacked strongly. After a fine run by the inside men, the Club looked likely to score, but Clemo muddled his pass and Coxon saved the situation. A fine shot, shortly afterwards, came from the Club right wing. Coxon tried to head it but missed, and Wilkinson cleared. Chassels then worked himself into a nice position, but his shot went very wide. Almost immediately, however, he gave his right wing a lovely send off, but the pass was not utilised. Then came Stalker's turn and he put in by far the best shot of the match, and Wilkinson did extremely well to save. Throughout the whole of the first half Clemo was too well marked by Horlop to be able to accomplish much. During a continued attacking movement by the Sappers, the ball was for some time bobbing perilously near the Club goal. Eventually it was headed away by Black. After Blumfield had stopped Stalker, White got away and put in a good shot, but Goldenberg was safe. Scott then tried a shot but it was miles too high, and just before half-time Wilkinson came out and cleared from a couple of Club forwards.

The teams changed ends with the score sheet blank. The R.E. took up the running immediately on resuming. Railton had to pass back to his goalkeeper to get out of a difficulty, and after a bit of a muddle the Club lines were cleared. Strange then injured his knee, and the R.E. had to finish the game with a man short. The Club made many dangerous rushes, but could not put the finishing touch on their efforts. Clemo got away nicely on several occasions in this half, but seemed to forget that there were four other forwards assisting him, and tried to take the ball into goal himself each time instead of centreing. Lucas got away on the Sappers' left, and he and White were responsible for several rushes, but Black was practically unbeatable. Stalker had hard lines in not scoring, and later Lucas put in a good shot but the goalkeeper proved equal to it. Wilkinson was then called upon to save from a miss-kick by Blumfield, and at the other end White gained applause for a very good effort to score. Scott obtained possession and sent in a stinging shot, and for a time the Club goal was in considerable danger. It seemed almost certain that extra time would have to be played, when the R.E. snatched the victory. Railton was away on the wing and Black found himself with a couple of forwards to deal with, uncomfortably near goal. They proved too quick for him, and White, obtaining possession, put in a shot well out of Goldenberg's reach. There was no further scoring, the R.E. thus winning the league and becoming holders of the Cup which is put up by "THE HONGKONG DAILY PRESS." Referee, Mr. Wright. Teams—Royal Engineers—Wilkinson; Blumfield and Coxon; Horlop, Smith and Richards; Townsend, Strange, Scott, White and Lucas.

H.K.F.C.—Goldenberg; Black and Railton; Grimmett, Stewart and Rodger; McNicoll, Chassels, Stalker, McTavish and Clemo.

small percentage of fat missing would not seriously interfere with the quality of the milk.

Mr. d'Almada said the milk in the case was drawn in the morning, and it was a well-known fact that morning milk was not the equal in quality of evening milk. The defendant would say that the cow was milked in the morning, and the milk was not touched in any way.

After evidence had been given by defendant and a milkman, the Magistrate imposed a fine of \$10, and cautioned the defendant.

DIVISION II.

"A" CO. K.S.L.I. v. "D" CO. K.S.L.I. These teams met for the second time to decide the championship of the second division league.

Neither goalkeeper was tested for some time. Offside spoiled a likely movement by Plimmer and Williams. The "A" Company then had an excellent chance to open their account, Davies being in a very promising position close to goal. He shot high, however, and the custodian touched the ball over. The resulting corner proved barren. Plimmer next tried a shot from well out, but it lacked sting and Smith disposed of it without difficulty. The "D" goal then had a very narrow escape, Williams only missing by inches. The "A" Company at this period were doing most of the attacking, and the opposing forwards were held well in hand by Simpson and Rigby. A fine struggle in the "D" goal again proved fruitless, although a free kick was awarded to "A" just outside the penalty area. The right wing of the "D" company got away and put in a fine centre, but the opposing backs reached the ball first. After a fine corner kick by "A" Co. the "D" broke away, but were finely stopped by Simpson. Brown made a splendid attempt, but without success, and half-time arrived with the score—three blank.

The second half commenced with the "A" goalkeeper punching the ball out of danger with Matthews up in the goalmouth. Brown then put in a nice shot and Davies forced a corner. It was well taken, and Williams had hard lines in not scoring. Hamblett looked a likely scorer but was robbed of the ball when close in. Plimmer got offside. Davies opened the scoring for the "A" company after nearly missing his chance through being a trifle slow. After the kick off the same side nearly scored again through a miss-kick by the "D" defence. "D" then obtained a corner which was well taken, and, following this, they appealed confidently for a penalty which, however, was not granted. A couple of fine clearances by the "A" custodian followed. Brown at this point was obliged to leave the field on account of an injury, and the "A" goal had another narrow escape. Davies then made matters fairly safe for his side by adding another point from a neat pass by Wilson. Williams missed a very easy opening at the other end, and the "A" raced away and nearly managed a third goal. The "D" company attacked again and Plimmer should have scored but hit the upright, and Williams, getting the ball on the rebound, put it into the net. The game thus ended in a win for "A" Coy. by two goals to one. Referee, Mr. Banks. Teams—"A" Co. K.S.L.I.—Smith; Simpson and Rigby; Perry, Taylor and Kelsey; Wilson, Hamblett, Brown, Davies, and Williams. "D" Co. K.S.L.I.—Preston; Burgess and Vaughan; Jones, Taylor and Praker; Davies, Matthews, Williams, Plimmer and Bennett.

HONGKONG TENNIS LEAGUE.

The annual report of the above states, among other things:—For the first time in the history of the League two Divisions were formed; and entries were received as follows:—Division I.—United Services Recreation Club, Chinese Recreation Club, Hongkong Cricket Club, Kowloon Cricket Club and University. Division II.—Vanguard, Kowloon Cricket Club, Chinese Recreation Club, Hongkong Cricket Club, Civil Service Club, Craigengower, Olympic, R.M.C.A. (European) and Wigwam. Owing to wet weather in the month of June the full fixture lists in both Divisions were not completed, but this did not interfere with the final results. The Shield in the 1st Division was won by the Hongkong Cricket Club, and the Shield in the 2nd Division was won by the Vanguard Club, after a tie with the Kowloon Cricket Club.

Matches were played between the winners of the 1st Division against the Rest of the 1st Division, and the Winners of the 2nd Division against the Rest of the 2nd Divisions, the Hongkong Club winning their match, and the Vanguard Club being successful against the Rest of Division II. A small charge of 20 cents per person was made to spectators on this occasion, and 177 persons paid for admission, resulting in the sum of \$35.40 being handed over to the War Charities fund. The accounts show a balance in hand of \$45.03.

GOVERNOR'S CUP SHOOT.

The following Launch Service has been arranged in connection with the Championship Shoot at Stonecutters on Saturday next:—

LEAVE BLAKE PIER:—8.30 Police Launch, 9 "Victoria," 9.30 Police Launch, 12 "Victoria."

LEAVE STONECUTTERS:—3 p.m. "Victoria," about 5 p.m. "Victoria" and Police Launch.

Competitors and Range officials are requested to leave Blake Pier by the "Victoria" at 9 a.m. Firing will commence at 10 a.m.

Squadding Tickets are being issued. The members of No. 1 Squad are:—

L/Naik Karam Dad	74th Punjab
Petty Officer Leach	R.N.
Sergeant Watering	R.M.L.I.
Sergeant Woolley	H.K.V.R.
Leading Signaller Botley	R.N.
C.Q.M.S. Broutton	R.G.A.
Sergeant Pitt	H.K.P.
Corpl. Ramskill	R.E.
Mr. Elson	H.M. Dockyard
Sergeant R. Marks	H.K.P.
Naik Faujdar	18th Infantry
Sepoy Parsootiam	74th Punjab
Pte. Goodman	H.K.V.R.
Mr. F. W. Wright	H.M. Dockyard

CONCERT AT BOWEN ROAD HOSPITAL.

At Bowen Road Hospital on Tuesday evening, the R.A.M.C. gave a welcome and farewell concert to about a hundred lads in khaki who spent a very enjoyable time.

Sgt. Major Thomson presided, supported by Q.M.S. Flint and Q.M.S. Robinson; and amongst those present were Captain Seales, R.A.M.C., Capt. Haslewood and Lieut. Lewis, K.S.L.I.

The room was gaily festooned with flags and everything went with a swing, for which thanks are due to the committee:—Sgt. Pitt, Cpl. McKeehan, Cpl. Woolman and Pte. Ricks. The following contributed to the programme:—Messrs. Ramskill, Livesey, Huxley, Crocker, Burton, Brooks, Murphy, Cross, Meridith, Hartley, Armstrong, Laker, Hearn, Light, Foster, Venner, Jenkins, Flammer, Greenfield, Gaskill, and Hartley. Mr. Brooks gave an excellent rendering of "Somewhere a voice is calling." Special mention should also be made of Cpl. Huxley's "Jewish impersonation," Cpl. Foster's Club Singing, Cpl. Armstrong's "The Bargeman," and Messrs. Cross and Meridith's banjo and mandoline solos. Messrs. Meridith, Jenkins and Hearn ably officiated at the piano.

Sgt. Major Thomson cordially welcomed the new draft and bade God-speed to the departing one. Q.M.S. Flint and Q.M.S. Robinson responded. The various toasts were heartily honoured.

PAUL DUFAULT'S SECOND CONCERT AT THE THEATRE ROYAL.

The second concert of the Paul Dufault season takes place to-night at the Theatre Royal. The programme contains a profusion of songs of such variety, ranging from grave to gay, that every taste cannot fail to be satisfied. Mr. Dufault's opening number will be the solo "The Prayer," from Massenet's opera, "Le Cid." The tenor's first group of songs includes "Sylvain," a dainty lovesong by the Norwegian composer, Sinding; a dramatic French song, "J'ai pleuré en rêve," and a new American ballad, "Morning." Mr. Dufault's second group comprises "Mother o' Mine," another charming French ballad, "Blues d'Amour," and will close with "The Trumpeter." Concerning Mr. Dufault's rendition of this latter song, the *Strait Times* Singapore says:—"He made it a new song with a pealing message, and only a man with magnificent powers of vocalization could have presented to his hearers a picture so clear-cut and vivid and arresting." With Miss Bindley, Mr. Dufault will sing the duet between Micaela and Jose from the first act of "Carmen." Miss Bindley's numbers will include the "One Fine Day" aria from "Madame Butterfly." The booking for to-night and Saturday's concert is at Montreux's.

RESULT OF "OUR LITTLE BIT" SOCIETY'S RAFFLE.

"Our Little Bit" Society, Kowloon, announces that the result of the Raffle in connection with raising funds for the benefit of the blind soldiers and sailors at St. Dunstan's Home, is as follows:—

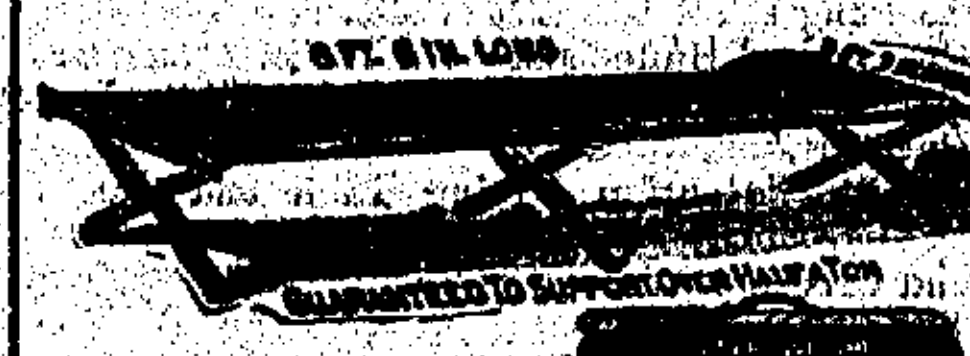
Ticket No. 200.....First Prize

" " 238.....Second "

" " 261.....Third "

The sum of \$500 has been collected, and will be sent to the Hon. Treasurer, War Charities, Hongkong, earmarked for the above.

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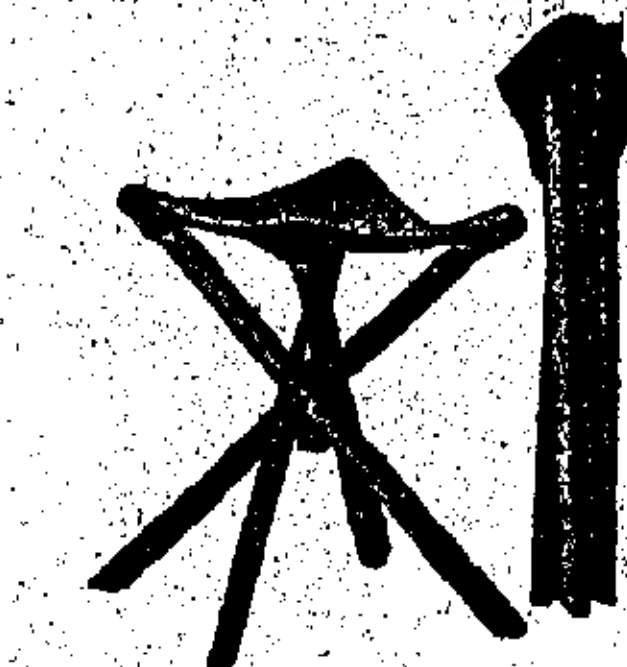
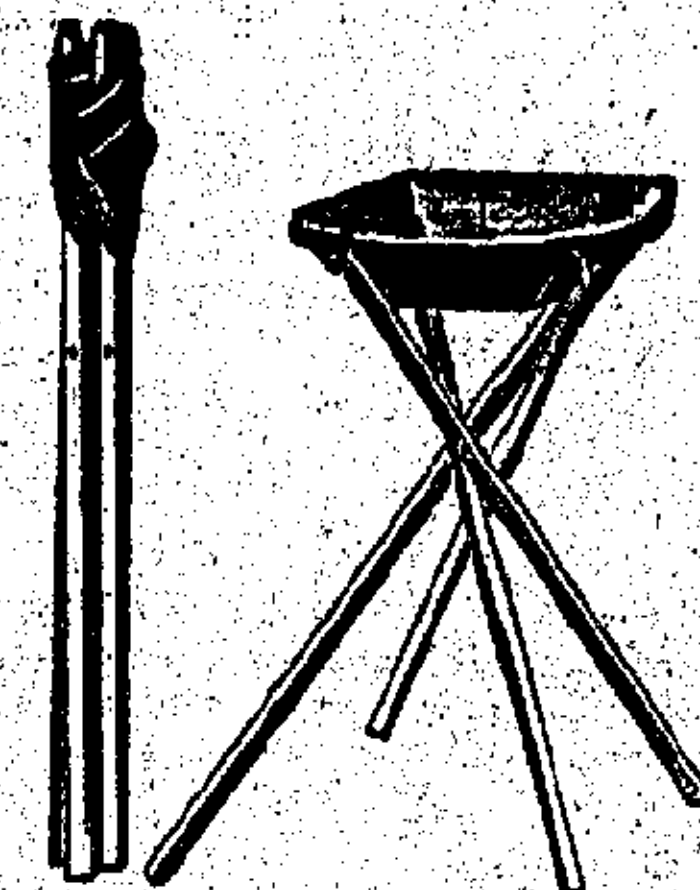
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NEW ADVERTISEMENTS

HONGKONG AND SOUTH CHINA WAR SAVINGS ASSOCIATION.

OWING to the coming HOLIDAYS this month's investment in Straits War Loan at 6 per cent. will CLOSE at NOON TO-DAY. Any later payments will go into the May investment.

UNION INSURANCE SOCIETY OF CANADIAN LTD.
Hon. Secretaries.
Hongkong, 5th April, 1917. [479]

HONGKONG TENNIS LEAGUE.

THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING will be held in the Hongkong Cricket Club Pavilion on THURSDAY, April 12th, at 5.15 P.M. Clubs interested are invited to send representatives.

F. LINDSAY-WOODS
Acting Hon. Secretary.
Hongkong, 4th April, 1917. [430]

NOTICE.

S.S. "HARTLEPOOL."

NEITHER the Captain nor the Owners will be responsible for any Debts incurred by any member of the Crew of the above vessel.
Hongkong, 4th April, 1917. [481]

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Care of "Daily Press," Office. [482]

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Tel. 450. [483]

HOLIDAYS NOTICE

THE IMPORTS AND EXPORTS OFFICE will be Opened for the purpose of issuing Import and Export permits as follows:—
FRIDAY, the 6th April, from 9 A.M. to 3 P.M.
SATURDAY, the 7th April, from 9 A.M. to 1230 P.M.
MONDAY, the 9th April, from 9 A.M. to 3 P.M.
The Office will be entirely closed on SUNDAY, the 8th instant.
R. HUTCHISON,
Superintendent.
Imports and Exports.
Hongkong, 3rd April, 1917. [479]

BANK HOLIDAYS.

IN accordance with Ordinance No. 5 of 1912 the EXCHANGE BANKS will be closed for the transaction of Public Business on FRIDAY, SATURDAY and MONDAY, the 6th, 7th and 8th instant.
Hongkong, 2nd April, 1917. [469]

LOST.

ONE BLACK RETRIEVER DOG, answers to the name of "NICK." Any person found in possession of same after this date, without reasonable excuse, will be prosecuted.
LEO D'ALMADA e CASTRO,
Old Supreme Court House,
Hongkong. [472]

NOTICE.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a BILL OF LADING No. 28 dated the 4th January, 1917, for 21 Bales of Cotton Yarn ex. ss. "KAMAKURA MARU" consigned to us by Messrs. TATA SONS & CO., from Tokyo, has been LOST, and that the goods have been duly delivered to us and that the Bill of Lading is consequently void and of no effect and no claim can be made thereon by the holder thereof.
SUZUKI & CO.
[478]

NOTICE.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that PHILIP HAWTHIN COBB is authorised to enter into Share Contracts on our behalf.
MOKON & TAYLOR.
Hongkong, 2nd April, 1917. [470]

NOTICE.

THE Interest and Responsibility of Mr. SOLOMON SASSOON BENJAMIN in our Firm in Hongkong CEASED on the 31st March, 1917.
Mr. PATRICK CUMMING HUTTON POTTS and Mr. HERBERT RICHARD BUDD HANCOCK have this Day been admitted Partners in our Firm in Hongkong.
BENJAMIN & POTTS.
Hongkong, 2nd April, 1917. [471]

NOTICE.

I HEREBY GIVE NOTICE that I have from To-day's date severed my connection with Mr. PUNG SHU, and that he has no authority to sign my name or to collect accounts due in respect of my business.
Dated Hongkong, 31st March, 1917.
J. GARR CLARK,
Architect and Surveyor. [461]

AUCTION

PUBLIC AUCTION.

THE Undersigned has received instructions to sell by Public Auction, TO-DAY (THURSDAY), the 5th April, 1917, commencing at 2.30 P.M., at No. 44, Lyndhurst Terrace, A LARGE QUANTITY OF VALUABLE HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE

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Teak Extension Dining Table and Chairs, Teak Sideboard and Dinner Wagon, Glass and Crockery Ware, Cutlery, Five Carpets and Rugs, Electric Table Lamps and Lamp Fittings, Ceiling and Table Fans, etc., etc.
Double Brass Bedsteads with Wine and Hair Mattresses, Teak Double Wardrobes with Bevelled Mirrors, Teak Bureau with Bevelled Mirrors, Marble Top Washstands, Toilet Crockery, Tapestry, Easy Chairs, etc., etc.
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Also
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1 Victrola and 1 Gramophone.
On view from WEDNESDAY, the 4th April. Catalogues will be issued.
Terms:—Cash on delivery.
GEO. P. LAMMERT,
Auctioneer. [463]

INTIMATIONS

In the Estate of MARY SYDNEY ANN DALTON, sometimes known as MARY OLIVER DALTON, late of Paddington, State of New South Wales, deceased, intestate.

HENRY GEARY DALTON, otherwise known as PHILLIP COUENNEY and ASOKA, son of the above-named deceased, is requested to communicate with the Undersigned respecting his Share of the above Estate.
T. W. GARRETT,
Public Trustee. [451]

Public Trust Office,
Sydney, 2nd March, 1917.

JAPANESE LESSONS.

T. NAKAHARA,
Top Floor,
90A, Praya East,
Wanchai. [468]

NOTICE.

ANY EUROPEAN, Non-Asiatic or Indian desiring to leave the Colony should apply in person at the CENTRAL POLICE STATION between the hours of 9 A.M. to 1 P.M. and 2 P.M. to 4 P.M. daily.
Applicants will be required to produce Passports or Identification papers.
All persons with certain exceptions who remain in the Colony for more than 7 days are required to Register themselves under the REGISTRATION OF PERSONS ORDINANCE 1916.
Forms of Registration giving the particulars required may be obtained at the G.P.O. and at all Police Stations.
The penalty for non-compliance is a fine not exceeding \$50.
[458]

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SHEWAN, TOMES & Co. [69]

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The Daily Press.

HONGKONG 5TH APRIL, 1917.

THE EDUCATIONAL LADDER.

THE final report of the Departmental Committee of Juvenile Education must be regarded as an important step along the path of educational reform. The problem to be dealt with bristles with difficulties, and the cables extracts from the report, which have reached us, do not give any indication as to how it is proposed to overcome them. There is evidence, however, that the subject is, at last, being approached in the proper spirit and that the ultimate good of the nation is the only consideration which now carries weight. The war has swept away many anomalies and absurdities, and has given us all a clearer vision for judging between essentials and non-essentials. The parochial views and the jealousies of rival factions, which have wrecked many sincere attempts to place our educational system on a firm foundation, are not likely to be tolerated in the future. We cannot afford to leave anything to chance. It is a platitude to say that place and power in the strenuous times ahead will be held by the race best equipped for the struggle, and, after the immense destruction of life and wealth which three years of strife has occasioned, the best possible use must be made of the resources at our disposal. Every boy must be afforded an opportunity of showing of what he is capable, and his capacities must be directed and trained by the State. Up to the present there has been no ladder placed between the Board schools and the higher walks of life.

Scholarships and Exhibitions have only provided a few rungs up which the most brilliant have been able to climb. There have been no training grounds for the mass of the people from which the Captains of Industry could choose assistants who would be immediately useful. For the great bulk of the population education has ended at the age of fourteen or fifteen years, and the result has been that thousands have drifted into blind-alley occupations, with the inevitable consequence that, a few years afterwards, there has been an enormous increase in the ranks of unskilled labour. Germany has always been held up as a pattern to be copied in this matter, and, although there is naturally a distaste for anything of German origin, if Germany has been more practical and more far-sighted in training the rising generation than Great Britain has been, it would be folly not to take advantage of her experience. The Educational Committee recommends the abolition after the war of exemptions from school attendance below the age of fourteen. If this recommendation be adopted it will be a great achievement, for it will cause, of necessity, the introduction of measures to render the enforcement of such a policy practicable. Indeed, such measures are foreshadowed in the suggestion that poverty shall no longer be regarded as a reasonable excuse for non-attendance. If the parents of a large family, earning barely enough to provide the necessities of life, are to be deprived of the financial assistance which strong boys of twelve or fourteen may be able to give them, it is obvious that the State must come to their assistance. The fear of pauperising the individual will disappear in the realisation of the overwhelming need which the State has for the best services of all its children, and any measures in this direction which may be adopted will more readily be regarded in their proper light as a sound investment for the future. Between the ages of fourteen and eighteen all young people, it is urged, should be compelled to attend continuation classes no fewer than eight hours a week for 40 weeks in the year, and employers should be obliged to grant the necessary facilities. In this case the recommendation implies the establishment of many more secondary schools or technical institutes in order to bridge over that period which proves fatal to so many—the few years before self-reliance is developed and before self-reliance is developed and before the good effects of school discipline are easily lost. The idea that a nation may sustain its stamin and virility will find few supporters in these days, but the present world-wide conflagration will not be regarded as an unmitigated evil if the lessons which it is teaching in all departments of economic and social life are taken to heart and the world is made brighter for the generations to come.

Seat-holders at St. John's Cathedral are requested to be in their places not later than 9 p.m. on Good Friday when the Oratorio will be given.

A telegram from Petrograd to the Vladivostok newspapers announces that the Russo-Asiatic Bank has given a sum of 500,000 roubles in aid of the recently liberated political prisoners in Russia.

Messrs. Polishwalla & Kotwall, cotton and yarn brokers, inform us that owing to scarcity of business operations they are not issuing their customary fortnightly report covering the period since March 21st.

Last night, in the Hall of the Union Church, Kennedy Road, a social gathering was held for the joint purpose of bidding farewell and god-speed to soldiers leaving the Colony, and extending a welcome to men of the newly-arrived draft. The Rev. J. Kirk Macdonald presided and, after a few appropriate remarks, a varied programme was efficiently sustained by Miss Westgate and Gunner Jones, who rendered songs; Miss Bryant, Mr. W. J. Mackie and Bombardier Wilson, who gave recitations; and Sapper Page, who played pianoforte solos. Some clever imitations were provided by Mr. J. Day. The expenses of the gathering, which was very enjoyable, were defrayed by the ladies of the congregation.

ST. GEORGE'S DAY.
SUCCESSFUL AUCTION OF TICKETS.

Whether it was the persuasive eloquence of Mr. H. P. White, or pure patriotism on the part of the bidders, or both combined, the fact remains that the auction of seats in the dress circle (centre block excluded) for "Scenes from Shakespeare," which took place at the Hongkong Hotel yesterday, was a remarkable success. There was a large company present in the smoke room, including the Hon. Mr. P. H. Holyoak, Mr. H. H. J. Compertz (Puisne Judge), and Messrs. J. Scott-Harston, G. T. Edkins, C. Beswick, H. W. Bird, T. Dowley, T. E. Pearce, E. W. Clarke, A. H. Harris, A. R. Lowe, E. Ralphs, D. K. Moss, A. E. Griffin, N. J. Stabb, A. H. Skelton, T. W. Graham, P. C. Potts, F. B. L. Bowley, H. J. Tutcher, D. Jaffe, and H. A. Lammert. The auctioneer, who was assisted by Mr. J. Bentley, experienced some difficulty before the auction in securing the very necessary hammer. He refused the generous offer of a hammer usually requisitioned for embedding tin-tacks, and eventually decided to proceed with a large, wooden-headed corkscrew—stating (*sotto voce*) that he felt much more at home with this implement—with which he knocked down some fancy prices, as will be seen from the figures given below. Mr. White also announced at the outset that, owing to the fact that a number of seats had been reserved for certain official guests, the centre block of seats would not be put up for auction; that left them with the left-hand and the right-hand seats. He also remarked:—"They say it is not right, for a man to live alone, and I do not think that it is right that he should go to the theatre alone; therefore, the seats will be put up for auction in pairs."

The sale then commenced, and bidding was remarkably brisk. When the company present revealed any signs of waiting they were encouraged by the auctioneer with many cheery words—and he was also always prepared to bid himself if there was a tendency to "hang fire." For instance, the bidding for 13 and 14 A stopped suddenly at \$100. The auctioneer never faltered. "These are the best seats in the theatre. They are next to the gangway, and you can get out more quickly; now bid away." The seats went for \$110. Again, when there was a rush of bidding for 23 and 24 A, Mr. White, glowing with satisfaction, exclaimed:—"Here we go, the higher you get the more exciting it is." That infused even more vigour into the bidding, and the hammer did not fall until \$230 had been reached. This was the top price for the sale, the seats being knocked down to Mr. A. H. Skelton. As a result of the sale no less a sum than \$4,300 was realised—a most successful result.

Among the chief prices paid were the following:—Mr. A. H. Skelton, \$230; Mr. H. A. Lammert, \$220; Mr. A. R. Lowe, \$195; Hon. Mr. P. H. Holyoak, \$170; Mr. T. E. Pearce, \$155; Mr. R. Wilson, \$150; Mr. S. O. Else, \$150; Hon. Mr. P. H. Holyoak, \$150; Mr. G. T. Edkins, \$140; Mr. N. J. Stabb, \$130; Mr. R. D. Harvey, \$125; Mr. A. H. Skelton, \$120; Mr. D. V. Stevenson, \$115; Mr. C. Beswick, two pairs at \$110 each; Mr. H. W. Bird, two pairs at \$105 each; Hon. Mr. P. H. Holyoak, Capt. Clarke, and Messrs. T. W. Graham, T. Pearce, A. N. Other, P. C. Potts, G. T. Edkins and D. K. Moss, \$100 each (the latter purchasing two pairs at \$100 each); Mr. H. A. Lammert, \$90; Mr. A. E. Griffin, \$85; Mr. H. P. White, two pairs at \$80 each; Mr. N. J. Stabb, \$80; Mr. G. T. Edkins, \$60; Mr. W. J. Tutcher, \$50; Mr. T. W. Graham, \$45; Mr. Lammert, \$45; Mr. F. B. L. Bowley, \$40; Capt. Clarke, \$40; and Mr. Lammert, \$40. There were also a number of tickets sold at prices ranging from \$35 to \$20.

The sale occupied just over an hour, some late-comers rushing in at the last moment, and securing a few of the popular "gangway seats" at an average of \$30.

SOLDIER'S VERBAL WILL.

In the Probate Court, London, recently Mr. Justice Shearman decided an interesting point as to soldiers' wills made on active service.

Lieutenant John Wardrop, of the Royal Fusiliers, was killed in France on August 3rd last. The previous day he told a brother officer that if he were killed he wished all his property to go to his wife, whom he had married in May.

His lordship pronounced in favour of the will made by word of mouth.

THE WAR.

AMERICA APPROACHING THE CLIMAX.

PRESIDENT WILSON'S STRIKING STATEMENT

THE GREAT ADVANCE.

WAGES FOR GERMAN PRISONERS.

Franco-Belgian Front.

EARLIER CABLES.
[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

BRITISH ADVANCE.

DEAD-STRAIGHT LINE FOR 14 MILES.

LONDON, April 3rd.

Reuter's correspondent at Headquarters telegraphs on April 3rd:—A blizzard has impeded operations, but the enemy has completely cleared out of Henin-sur-Cojeul, five miles south-east of Arras. Thus our line is almost dead-straight for fourteen miles from Beaurains, south of Arras, to the great Amiens-Cambrai road near Beaumetz. It is reported that we have again progressed in our north-western advance towards St. Quentin.

ANOTHER VILLAGE CAPTURED.

LONDON, April 3rd.

Field-Marshal Sir Douglas Haig, in a communiqué, states:—In the course of yesterday's attack, south-east of Arras, we carried the village of Henin-sur-Cojeul. The artillery broke up a second counter-attack.

Further south, we captured Maisemey and occupied Ronsoy Wood.

Six enemy aeroplanes were brought down and two driven down damaged. Six of ours are missing.

FRENCH ADVANCE.

VIOLENT ARTILLERY STRUGGLE.

LONDON, April 3rd.

A French communiqué says: There has been intermittent artillery firing from the Somme to the Aisne, and patrol encounters north and south of the Ailette. We captured six machine-guns in the region of Vaux Aillon yesterday.

The artillery struggle continues fairly violently in the Butte de Mesnil and Maison de Champagne region.

Our fire repulsed a German attempt on a trench in the sector of Seppois le Haut, in Alsace.

GERMAN REPORT.

LONDON, April 3rd.

A wireless German official message claims that the enemy took over three hundred prisoners near Noreuil, but, coming under the English machine-gun fire, only sixty reached the lines.

Naval Activities.

EARLIER CABLES.
[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

AMERICAN VESSEL SUBMARINED.

NEW YORK, April 3rd.

The United States Consul at Brest has advised the owners that the steamer *Arlec*, the first armed American vessel to sail to Europe, was sunk by a German submarine on April 2nd.

Reuter's correspondent at Havre says that a French patrol boat picked up a boat with nineteen of the crew of the *Arlec*. Twenty-eight of the crew are missing. The sea is rough, and it is feared that it may be impossible to rescue the men.

SUBMARINE SUNK.

FISHING BARQUE'S ACHIEVEMENT.

PARIS, April 3rd.

A French fishing barque, armed with a small gun, sank a submarine after twenty minutes' fighting.

Russian Front.

EARLIER CABLES.
[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

RUSSIAN ACTIVITIES.

AVIATORS CAPTURE A SCHOONER.

LONDON, April 3rd.

A Russian official wireless message says:—We threw back, at the point of the bayonet, enemy attacks which had penetrated our trenches in the regions south of Ilukst, and to the south-east of Vladimir Volynsk.

Our seaplane, raiding Derkas, was compelled to descend.

Aviators with their machine-guns fired on a Turkish schooner. The crew abandoned the schooner, which the aviators boarded, and sailed towards Russia. They encountered a heavy storm, but arrived at the Djarligatch peninsula, from whence they returned to Sevastopol by torpedo boat.

General.

LATEST CABLES.
[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

BYE-ELECTION.

PEACE CANDIDATE OUSTED.

LONDON, April 4th.

The South Aberdeen bye-election resulted as follows:—

Mr. Fleming (Coalition)..... 3,333
Mr. Watson (Independent)..... 1,507
Mr. Pethick-Lawrence (Peace).... 333

AMERICA AND WAR.

MEXICO'S ATTITUDE.

NEW YORK, April 4th.

The attitude of Mexico towards the United States is attracting renewed attention. It is reported that the civilian leaders of Mexico City are disposed towards neutrality, while the military authorities favour a pro-German declaration of war.

NEW PEACE OFFER.

AUSTRIAN PRESSURE ON GERMANY.

The *Lokal Anzeiger's* announcement culminates a combination of circumstances. Firstly, M. Czernin's statement, cabled on March 31st, that "the Central Powers are ready to negotiate for peace honourable to our enemies as well as to ourselves"; secondly, the *Vorwaerts'* declaration that the Central Powers are working for "an honourable and satisfactory peace"; thirdly, the recent significant Imperial gathering at German Headquarters.

The most prevalent belief is that Austria is bringing pressure on Germany to end a struggle which is threatening to ruin the respective countries and endanger the reigning dynasties.

EARLIER CABLES.

RUSSIAN WAR CABINET.

LONDON, April 3rd.

The *Times* correspondent at the Russian Headquarters says it has been decided to form a War Cabinet of seven members, on the Anglo-French model, and sweeping to reorganise the Army High Command. He shows that a strongly pronounced anti-German feeling is apparent in the Army, and refers reservedly to the actual state of efficiency of the Army at the moment.

It transpires that General Alexeff had great difficulty, at the time of the Revolution, in dissuading the Tsar from ordering the troops from the Front with the object of re-establishing the late Government's authority.

AMERICA AND WAR.

PRESIDENT WILSON'S STATEMENT.

HUMAN RIGHTS MUST BE VINDICATED.

WASHINGTON, April 3rd.

President Wilson began his speech to Congress with a review of the development of German submarineism, and dwelt at length on the ruthlessness of recent measures, especially the sinking of Belgian relief ships, notwithstanding the fact that they were furnished with German safe conducts, with a reckless lack of compassion for the principles of international law. The German Government had thrown to the winds all scruples of humanity for understandings supposed to underlie its intercourse with the world. "The present warfare against commerce," said President Wilson, "is a warfare against mankind. The challenge is to all nations, and, in making a choice of action, our motive must not be revenge or a victorious assertion of physical might, but only a vindication of the right of human rights, of which we are only a single champion."

"Armed neutrality now appears impracticable, because German submarines are, in effect, outlaws, and are not comparable to privateers or cruisers. Therefore it is common prudence to endeavour to destroy them at sight before they have shown their intentions. Germany has intimidated, however, that armed guards on ships are subject to be treated as pirates. Armed neutrality, in the face of such pretensions, is worse than ineffectual. We are incapable of choosing the path of submission or of suffering the most sacred national rights to be ignored and violated. The wrongs against which we now array ourselves cut to the very root of human life. In unhesitating obedience to what I deem my constitutional duty, I advise Congress to declare the recent course of the Imperial German Government to be in fact nothing less than war against the Government and people of the United States, and that it formally accepts the status of a belligerent thrust upon it and takes immediate steps, not only to put the country into a more thorough state of defence, but also to exert all its power and employ all its resources to bring Germany to terms and to end the war."

Supplementing the United States' intentions in regard to co-operation with the Allies, President Wilson said it would be necessary to organise and mobilise all its material resources to supply war materials to serve national needs in the most abundant and yet the most economical and most efficient way possible, as well as to supply immediate and full equipment for the Navy. He expressed the opinion that a new Army should be raised by Conscription, and also advocated the authorisation of a subsequent additional increment of half a million men as necessary. He suggested proposed principles governing the raising of money, and said they should endeavour to keep the nation in the field supplied with materials.

After a scathing reference to selfish, autocratic power, and to America's desire to ensure the observance of the principles of peace and justice among a really free and self-governed people, President Wilson said:—"We are not quarrelling with the German people but feel a sympathy and friendship towards them. It was not on their impulse, or by their knowledge or approval, that the Government acted in entering the war. It was determined on like war of olden days, when rulers in no wise consulted peoples and waged war in the interests of dynasties or of little groups of ambitious men accustomed to use their fellow-men as pawns and tools."

President Wilson sacrastically remarked that self-governed nations did not fill neighbouring States with spies, or launch intrigue to bring about a critical posture of affairs, which would give an opportunity to strike and to make conquest. Cunningly contrived plans of deception or oppression, carried from generation to generation, could only be worked out and kept from the light within the privacy of courts, or behind the carefully guarded

confidences of a narrow, privileged class. The President, in the course of a powerful argument for the support and recognition of democratic rights, glowingly referred to the Russian Revolution, and greeted the new régime as a fit partner for the League of Honour.

Proceeding, President Wilson said:—"We have no selfish end to serve, and we do not desire territorial aggrandisement or indemnities, but we are making sacrifices freely, as champions of the rights of mankind, and shall be satisfied only when these are secured." President Wilson said he had postponed discussion of relations with Vienna, indicating that they were not at present intending to fight against Austria-Hungary. He said America did not possess enmity towards the German people, and was not seeking to injure or disadvantage them. But she was in armed opposition to an irresponsible Government, devoid of considerations for humanity's right, which was running amok. America would have opportunities to prove her friendship towards millions of German birth and sympathy living in America, and, added the President, "we shall be proud to prove this to all German-Americans if they stand with us." Disloyalty, however, would be firmly suppressed. Outbreaks might occur, but they would be local and would not be countenanced except by the lawless and malignant few.

The President concluded:—"The necessity for this addressing Congress is a distressing and oppressive duty. Maybe there is many a month of fiery trial and sacrifice ahead. It is a fearful thing to lend this great and peaceful people into the most terrible and disastrous of all wars. Civilisation itself is seemingly in the balance. But right is more precious than peace. In fighting, we dedicate our lives and possessions, with pride that we are privileged to spend blood and might for the principles that gave America birth, and for happiness and peace which she has treasured. God helping her, she can do no other."

CO-OPERATION WITH THE ALLIES.

LONDON, April 3rd.

The passage in President Wilson's speech regarding co-operation with the Allies was as follows:—"This will involve the utmost practicable co-operation in council with the Governments warring against Germany, and, incident thereto, the extension to those countries of the most liberal financial credits, in order that our resources may, as far as possible, be added to theirs. This will involve the organisation and mobilisation of all the material resources of the country to supply war materials to serve the incidental needs of the nation in the most abundant, the most economical, and the most efficient way possible. This will involve the immediate and full equipment of the Navy in all respects, particularly in supplying it with the best means of dealing with the enemy's submarines."

This will also involve an immediate addition to the armed forces of the United States of at least half a million men, who should be chosen on the principle of universal liability for service, and also the authorisation of a subsequent additional increment of an equal force as soon as it is needed and can be trained. This will involve, also, the granting of adequate credits to the Government, which should be sustained, so far as it can equitably be sustained, by well-conceived taxation. In order to avoid, so far as possible, hardships likely to arise from the vast loads in carrying out these measures, we should keep constantly in mind the wisdom of interfering as little as possible with the duty of supplying the nations already warring against Germany with the materials which they can obtain only from us or by our assistance. They are in the field, and we should help them in every way to be effective there."

PRESIDENT WILSON CHEERED.

WASHINGTON, April 3rd.

Unwinds outside the Capitol cheered frantically as President Wilson entered and left.

During the address, members of Congress roared, in cheer after cheer, in an ecstasy of patriotism. They vociferously

applauded the declaration that the United States would never submit to injustice, as also did they the advice that the United States should help the Allies financially and otherwise, as well as the declaration for an Army based on universal service. When the President asked Congress to declare a state of war, all present rose, yelling their approval.

At the conclusion of the address, all, and even a few supposed pacifists, rose, waving handkerchiefs and small flags, while the cheers were deafening.

POINTS FROM THE SPEECH.

LONDON.

President Wilson, in the course of his address to Congress, also said:—"The Russian people, in all their native majesty, have now been added to the forces fighting for freedom, justice and peace."

It has been proved in the Courts of Justice that intrigues, coming perilously near to disturbing peace and a dislocation of industries, have been carried out at the instigation, and with the support and personal direction of German officials, proving that Germany purposed aggression at its convenience. The interception of the Note to the German Minister in Mexico was eloquent testimony to their evil designs.

"We are accepting this challenge, knowing that such a Government could never be a friend, but a menace, to the security of all democracies. We are accepting battle with this natural foe, and shall, if necessary, spend the whole force of the nation to nullify its pretensions."

RECEPTION OF NEWS IN COMMONS.

LONDON, April 3rd.

In the House of Commons, Mr. Bonar Law stated that the British Ambassador to Washington had telegraphed that it was expected that Congress would give President Wilson authority to declare war. (Cheers.)

WAR DECLARATION APPROVED.

WASHINGTON, April 3rd.

The Foreign Relations Committee of the Senate has approved, with slight verbal amendments, the Administration resolution, mentioned in the earlier telegrams, declaring that a state of war exists with Germany.

PRESS ENTHUSIASTIC.

NEW YORK, April 3rd.

The newspapers in the United States, irrespective of political affiliations, eulogise President Wilson's address as a complete expression of the nation's ideals.

THE RESOLUTION.

WASHINGTON, April 3rd.

The Administration resolution cabled yesterday, has been introduced in both Houses, but consideration thereof is deferred till to-morrow. It is expected that it will pass both Houses overwhelmingly.

NEW PEACE OFFER?

NEWSPAPER ANNOUNCEMENT.

AMSTERDAM, April 3rd.

The *Lokal Anzeiger* states that the Central Powers are going to make a new peace offer.

BARROW STRIKE ENDED.

LONDON, April 3rd.

The Barrow strike has been settled and work is being resumed to-morrow. A ballot resulted in 1,623 voting for resumption of work and 1,250 against.

NO PAPERS ON GOOD FRIDAY

LONDON, April 3rd.

No English newspapers will be published on Good Friday.

MUNITION WORK.

SPEEDING UP.

LONDON, April 3rd.

The Press Bureau announces that Mr. Henderson, presiding at a conference on the trade card scheme, stated that in view of the Army's need for the necessary release of a large number of munition workers, he foreshadowed a new system whereby those who were indispensable would be left undisturbed.

WAR PRISONERS IN ENGLAND.

EMPLOYMENT ON PAROLE.

LONDON, April 3rd.

The Press Bureau announces that arrangements have been made to licence on parole selected civilian prisoners of war, for employment in essential industries on the employer's premises and not connected with war operations, at the ordinary rate of wages. The prisoners will report themselves twice a week to the police.

AEROPLANE LOSSES.

COMPARATIVE FIGURES FOR LAST MONTH.

LONDON, April 3rd.

The *Times* states that last month's aeroplane losses on the Western Front were: British, 68; French (according to German reports), 71; and German, 133.

NATIVE BASUTO LABOUR.

"KING GEORGE'S HOUSE ON FIRE."

CAPE TOWN, April 3rd.

A special session of the Basutoland Council, convened in order to discuss the High Commissioner's appeal for native war labour overseas, has concluded most satisfactorily. The appeal embodied a scheme for the recruitment of native labour in Basutoland similar to the South African Union scheme, but to be controlled by the Basutoland Council.

The Basuto Chiefs and Councillors offered their services, and the paramount Chief ordered the other Chiefs to tour the country directing the natives to prepare for European service. The paramount Chief, in a speech to the Council, dwelt upon the Basutos' prosperity, and declared that "as King George's house is on fire it is the duty of all good firemen, including the Basutos, to quench the flames."

CHINESE TELEGRAMS.

[BY COURTESY OF THE "CHUNG HOOI SAN PO."]

CHINA AND GERMANY.

SHANGHAI, April 4th.

The U.S. Minister to Peking visited the Premier on Monday in order to discuss the situation as between America and Germany; and, on the 2nd inst., the Premier visited the Japanese Minister to consult with him on the question of China entering the war.

It is proposed that the Chinese salt merchants' stocks in the German-Chinese bank shall be transferred to the Bank of China.

THE WEST RIVER.

It is rumoured that Luk Wing Ting, who will not be returning to Kwangtung for sometime, is likely to be appointed Inspector General of the West River.

CHINESE LABOUR FOR EUROPE.

EACH PROVINCE TO RECRUIT 10,000.

One of the most important actions taken by the Government since the diplomatic rupture with Germany is in connexion with the recruiting of Chinese labour for Europe. It is reported that the Government has sent a circular telegram to the senior authorities of all the provinces ordering them to recruit labourers with the view of sending them abroad. Among other things, the telegram indicates that each province is to recruit 10,000 labourers for the purpose.

GERMAN NEWSPAPERS AND THE SUBMARINE WARFARE.

A confidential circular issued by the General commanding at Munster, Westphalia, has been published. The circular dictates to the newspapers how they are to discuss Germany's submarine warfare. Editors are told that "determined approval of the entire people must ring out in the press." The circular also recommends the use of the word "unlimited" instead of "ruthless" to describe the submarine warfare and urges that an outward form of friendliness be shown towards America.

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LISLE THREAD

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BLACK LISLE SOCKS

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Price 75 cts. Pair.

WHITEAWAY, LAIDLAW

& CO., LTD.

20, DES VŒUX ROAD, HONGKONG.

3,000,000 DEAD FOR A RAILWAY LINE!

[BY PROFESSOR T. G. MASARYK, THE EXILED CZECH M.P.]

While the war progresses towards its third completed year there are men busy at work on another link in the railroad of death, the iron way which is to link up Berlin with Baghdad.

It is not an unflattering term to apply to this piece of railway construction, for the German dreams of empire from Prussia to Persia envisaged a steel road connecting the Prussian capital with Mesopotamia, and in that sense we can speak of the war as having largely been waged to gain complete control as much of the Berlin-Baghdad railway as the corridor of States through which the track when finished is to run.

By the time peace is secured the railroad may well have cost Europe twenty million casualties, a price for the possession of an historic steel track the world is never likely to pay again.

Though the majority of English people, the Baghdad railway was unknown before the present war, the idea of opening up Mesopotamia by means of a railroad first occurred to English engineers, who as long ago as 1875 had definite plans formulated. The French and the Russians were later in interesting themselves in the possibilities that were foreshadowed. Then the watchful Germans joined in and, obtaining concessions for railroads in Asia Minor, built the line Hajdar Pasha-Angora.

In 1908 the Kaiser visited the Sultan, and within a year the line to Baghdad was approved and the necessary financial assistance obtained. The dream, Berlin-Baghdad, was brought a stage nearer fruition, and the seeds of the war 1914-17 laid—for to carry the line of empire so far, however, skilfully Germany might disguise her real aims by talk of the freedom of the seas, meant carrying it through obstacles formed by millions of bodies.

BERLIN-CALIO.

That the Germans have for long seriously regarded Turkey as their inheritance is shown, not merely by the construction of the Baghdad railway across Asia Minor, but also by the plans for river regulation and the building of canals towards the Black Sea, projects which have been discussed so diligently during the war.

The Rhine-Danube ship canal is declared to be an indispensable feature of Berlin-Baghdad domination, enabling, as it will, German warships to enter the Black Sea. At the "Central Europe" Congress at Munich last summer eleven great canals were proposed to facilitate the commercial and military relations of the different countries of Central Europe.

But in my opinion the actual plan of Germany might be expressed even more fittingly by the watchword, "Berlin-Cairo."

The Germans have not merely concerned themselves with the Baghdad railway, but have also pushed on the Aden-Medina-Hodeida branch. This forms an essential part of their African policy, and along with their acquisition of the right of priority in the Belgian Congo for themselves against France, is clear indication that Germany has wanted to consolidate her possessions in Equatorial Africa.

Had Germany won the war a central Colonial Empire was to play the same role against the north and south of Africa as Germany, by her own central position, has played against the east and west of Europe. From their East Africa Colony, too, Germans would have had a direct over-sea route to Persia, India, and beyond.

Once Turkey became a vassal of Germany, and Austria-Hungary was "conquered," England was threatened in Cairo, South Africa, and India, and the danger of concentrating attention on the Berlin-Baghdad railway is that the British public may neglect the fact that the Kaiser when he looked to the East, cast his eye as far as Egypt, the place where the Pan-German advocates have persistently held Britain's world-power is fatally vulnerable.

THE PAN-GERMAN PLAN.

That with the conquest of Egypt was connected the plan of German Central Africa domination was revealed at the interview which the German Chancellor, on the eve of the war, had with the British Ambassador, when he was unable to give an understanding that German territorial claims did not extend to the French African colonies.

The Berlin-Baghdad scheme, aiming at the Near East, does not exclude ambitions in the Far East. Germany has worked very hard in Persia, and her agents have been busy in the country leading to China and in China itself.

Attention has just been drawn to the book in which the Gobi desert is recommended to Germany as the key of Asia, from which the whole Far East, India included, can be controlled, and the advice is offered to England and Russia themselves to take possession of this strategic area.

But if Germany is to be isolated from the Near East and the Far East, surely it is best to begin in Austria-Hungary and Turkey. As outlined in the Allies' peace terms for it is by use of the resources of these two Powers that Germany could alone hope to gratify her lust for world dominion in any future war.

Unfortunately, a section of the British public refuses to recognise Austria-Hungary as the enemy of England, and wastes time in speculating on such futile aid as why the Kaiser left Vienna hurriedly. The fact is that unless the Austrian Empire is dissolved and Turkey driven from Europe, Germany will have won the war, since the extent to which Austria-Hungary and Turkey are preserved is the measure of the assistance Germany can hope for in her next bid for world dominion.

That is the correct way to understand the significance of the railroad of death—Berlin-Baghdad. Let the Germans carry their aims so far and the rest of the Pan-German plan is only a matter of time.

THE GREAT GAMBLE.

THE SUBMARINE MENACE AND BRITAIN'S SHORTAGE OF SHIPS.

[BY A. G. GARDINER, EDITOR OF THE "DAILY NEWS AND LEADER."]

There are few, I suppose, who do not feel to-day that the war is rushing to its climax and its decision. The impetus of the action precludes any other feeling, and the cycle of events is almost visibly complete. It began with two dominant facts—the supremacy of Germany on land and the supremacy of Great Britain on the seas, and the real issue of the war was which of these two forces would prevail. They could not come into actual conflict, for, as Bismarck said, the elephant cannot fight the whale. Nevertheless it is upon the relative power of these two forces that the war has turned, and in the end the death-grapple was bound to be on the sea, for the sea ultimately controls the land. It is this final stage to which we have come. When Germany failed to stampede Europe in 1914-15 she realised that the winning factor in the war was sea-power.

That power in the hands of Britain operated in two ways. It enabled the Allies to consolidate their forces on land, to create new armies, to supply them with material, and to build up a power that must ultimately triumph. And as it increased the potentialities of the Allies, so it diminished the potentialities of Germany. Unless she could prevent the working out of this invisible struggle of forces she was doomed. Unless the whale was struck a mortal blow, the elephant would perish. It would be killed by a larger elephant.

TWO OPERATIONS.

And so from the Marne onwards, the positions became immensely reversed. The Allies, commanding the seas, were building up a land power that should ultimately dominate the enemy. Germany, master on land, was seeking for an instrument that would destroy our control of the seas. The two operations have been proceeding side by side; but they differed in this: our operation was visible, the German operation was invisible. Everyone could see what was happening on the side of the Allies, but we could only guess what was happening on the side of the Germans. Yet the guess was not difficult to make, and had we not been deceived by these great armies we should have seen that it was impossible to prepare against the blow that would be struck at us as we prepared for the final blow that we should strike at the enemy. We have done the one, but have we done the other?

Even now are we doing it? At this moment thirty thousand men are being withdrawn by Lord Derby from the starved lands of this country—withdrawn at a time when, as Mr. Leslie Scot said in the House of Commons lately, we need 200,000 more labourers on the soil. And in yesterday's paper I saw the announcement of the sinking of 32,000 tons of shipping, of which 25,000 tons was British shipping. That is presumably one day's destruction under the unlimited submarine warfare. Multiply that figure, by the days of the month, remember that of the twenty millions tons of shipping we possessed at the beginning of the war sixty per cent. is engaged in military work, that we have lost much of the remainder—how much it is not permitted to say—that, owing to the withdrawal of engineers to the front and the demands of the Navy, we have been building fewer ships than we have lost, that those 32,000 tons have, like the rest, gone down with valuable cargoes, and we shall be in a position to measure what is in front of us.

"EYE ON THE CLOCK."

I do not set these things out to create alarm, but I do set them out to create concern and to concentrate attention on the vulnerable place in our armour. We have come to the final clinch and each side is aiming at the vital part. Hitherto Germany has been on the offensive on shore, we have been on the defensive at sea. The roles are reversed. We are striking her blow on land, Germany is striking her blow at sea. She is hoping to hold our ears, until she can get her blow home at our food ships, and the purpose of the Allies is to keep possession of the sea while the armies win the victory ashore.

It is important to remember that the essence of the German calculation is time. Time has always been her enemy, for land power is in the position of the sprinter in a race and sea-power is in the position of the long-distance runner. Germany has fought the war as it were with her eye in the clock. The fear was never more apparent than now. We cannot say how near she is to collapse. She may be very near, she may, on the other hand, be able to survive to the next harvest. But what we do know absolutely is that she is gravely impoverished, that she has long been suffering from a shortage of essential things, that she is a nation on an existence diet. And that fact, operating over months, is lowering the vitality and fighting strength of the nation. It may not mean imminent collapse, but it means certain depreciation, the weakening of nerve and the failure of moral.

HELLY, PSYCHOLOGY.

And it must be remembered that the German spirit depends so much upon a haughty pride of power that this failure of moral is peculiarly feared. The psychology of the bully is always the same. He presumes upon his confidence in his unassailable strength. When that confidence is broken he is broken. He can fight a winning battle, but not a losing battle. Now all sensible people will agree with Admiral Meux's statement in his speech in seconding the address that all Germans are not bullies and blackguards. It would be a ghastly outlook for the future if they were. But they are under the domination of a system which is based upon the philosophy of the bully, and a State so based will have the weaknesses as well as the strength of the bully.

It is the fear of the demoralising effect of impoverishment that makes time so urgent a factor in the German calculation. The stroke at sea was long foreseen and long prepared for. The early incidents of the war indicated the proper character of that stroke. It could not,

except in the last resort, take the form of a challenge to the supremacy of the British Navy; but it could take the form of a challenge to the effectiveness of that Navy in one of its two functions—that of securing the safety of British transport. It could not lift the German blockade, but it might establish a counter blockade. And so, after the first submarine campaign had been suppressed, every energy was directed to building such a fleet of submarine cruisers—swift as a battleship on the surface, able to travel ten thousand miles, and carrying guns that would sink a ship at a range of two or three miles—as would destroy the whole mercantile marine of the world or paralyse what it did not destroy.

THE CALCULATIONS.

That is the thrust now directed at our heart. It comes at the end of a sequence of events all related, for the higher strategy of Germany is never hand-to-mouth. The spectacular drive through Roumania was intended not only to win food but to put the Allies in fear; the peace proposal was made to turn that fear to account, and behind the peace proposal the sword of the submarine was being ground. And because speed is vital, all risks must be taken. The comity of America must be invited for the obvious reason that if England is to be starved all ships, including American ships, that come into British waters must be sunk. It is a familiar view that Germany would rather have the United States among the belligerents than not. It may be true. But the operative fact is that she must stop all ships coming to British ports. And since she is out for an immediate result she is indifferent to what happens afterwards. If she wins, an enemy more or less does not matter. If she loses, it matters no more. Her argument is that America can make out victory sure nine months, twelve months hence; but that she cannot make it sure now, can do little more than she has done, may, indeed, do less, for the supplies she has sent us will now be subject to sinking like the rest.

CAN AMERICA HELP?

In a word, Germany is gambling not on next year, but on the next three or four months. It is a desperate gamble, but the calculations behind it are cold and sane enough. Happily in the past, we have seen many of these cold calculations shattered by events. They seem at the beginning to have a dreadful and implacable certainty about them, and then to fade into futility and failure. They are iron giants with feet of clay. We must not presume that that is so in this case. We must always believe the best thing to be the real thing, and it would be insanity to underrate the present menace.

But there are factors that Germany has left out. If America comes in she may be able to do instant service. She has two great things, apart from her enormous inventiveness and swift production. She has a fleet, roughly as powerful as that of France at the beginning of the war, and she can put her hands on half a million tons of German shipping which would be speedily available. And if the South American Republics followed her lead, that half a million would become a million tons.

ARE WE AWAKE?

But it is true, nevertheless, that if we are to parry this thrust at our heart we must trust to no material power outside our own strength. And it is that fact which brings us back to the question of the measures we are taking to meet the danger. I do not think anyone could listen to the debate on Thursday without disquiet. Troops are coming from America in March and the men are going from the land now. We have initiated a voluntary system of food economy and are told that 80 per cent. of the people are ignoring it. Ships are being laid down, but are they the right ships? Is it not true that we are building liners in places where we ought to be building cargo boats? And is it not labour for making the machinery of ships rather than the skins of ships which is lacking because the engineers are in the Army? We have schemes for rationing ready to put in operation, but have so far not dared to stop the criminal destruction of grain in the home interest, against which Mr. Ströcher has waged so courageous and indomitable a war in the *Spekator*. The other side of that criminal waste is seen in the revelations of vice in London which can no longer be concealed. These things compel us to ask whether we have yet appreciated the gravity of the new war.

WILL THE FLEET COME OUT?

And there is another consideration which ought not to be ignored. This attempt of Germany to win the war at sea in the last round turns our thoughts full upon the Admiralty. In the competence of the Navy to meet all emergencies above the water the nation has full confidence. The competence may soon be put to its severest test, for in this gambler's throw of Germany there is still one ace to play, and should it need support it will be played. For two years and a half Germany has nursed her Navy, but we know enough of her mind to know it is not a final challenge to our own fleet. She has avoided it because it has been her clear policy to keep this last weapon in reserve. The moment seems near when she may throw it into the scales of war. Again it would be a gamble, but it would be a gamble for the possession of the world, risked when her other hopes were exhausted. It would be clearly worth the risk, for if her fleet was destroyed she would not be appreciably more vulnerable to attack, and if, by some great accident of fortune, the British fleet were destroyed she would have ended the war in her favour. Germany has too much at stake and too grim a spirit to forgo a chance that offered such a possibility. She will take it, and possibly take it soon, for in this calculation the American Navy would be a real factor.

(Continued at foot of next column.)

ROMANCE OF THE TREASURY.

STORY OF SIR SAMUEL HARDMAN LEVER.

The story of Mr. Samuel Hardman Lever, Financial Secretary of the Treasury, on whom the King has bestowed the honour of a K.C.B., is one of the romances of the war, and will stand in history as an illustration of the high patriotism of British subjects who were living outside the British Empire when war began (says the *Daily Express*).

Several well-deserved tributes to the ability of Mr. Lever have been paid in Parliament by Ministers, but hitherto the country has remained in absolute ignorance of the fact that Mr. Lever gave up his own business after war broke out and came to England to volunteer his services to the country.

After two years or so he is the Chancellor of the Exchequer's second in command, and will thus exercise a large share of influence over the whole sphere of State finance, and will, of course, be the Chancellor's adviser in drawing up Budgets.

When the war began Mr. Lever was head of a great firm of accountants in America. His chief office was in New York, but he had branch offices in London, and served his apprenticeship in England. When he had ended his apprenticeship he made up his mind to make his way in the world, and he decided that the best place to do it was America. The firm with which he was connected had a branch in New York. Mr. Lever went there. That was in 1893.

America had not taken to accountants at that time, and Mr. Lever saw that there was a great field for the business. After a time he established his own firm, and his invaluable aid as an accountant was welcomed by some of the most important business concerns. One might expect that during the thirty-three years he would, for some reason or other, have adopted American citizenship. He preferred to remain a subject of the land in which he was born.

Then the war came. Here was a rather more than middle-aged, prosperous New York business man, with business strings hanging him to half a dozen large cities. One would have imagined that he would have gone on with his own business, and offered the British Empire his warmest sympathy. What Mr. Lever did was to untie the strings, make arrangements for his business to be carried on in his absence—and come back to England to "do his bit."

Mr. Lever's ability was, of course, known among those who are in touch with the chief business affairs of New York. His own firm has an office in the City of London—and when he volunteered his services the Government gladly accepted them. The Munitions Department was being set up, and Mr. Lever was appointed as a financial adviser. He subsequently became Assistant Financial Secretary. He took charge of the cost accounting department, which was formed in order to advise the Minister of Munitions on the cost of purchases and productions.

A gigantic business was leaping into existence, and Mr. Lever invented and built up machinery to keep a check on prices. His work was almost invaluable. Mr. Montagu, then Minister of Munitions, declared in the House of Commons last October that Mr. Lever's department saved the country "very many millions of pounds." That is an achievement of which any man might be proud. Mr. Lever brought contract prices down heavily. Large firms were found to be charging too much for shells, of which vast quantities were needed. Mr. Lever told them what the shells ought to cost. They replied, "Can't be done." He then invited them to show him their costs, but they declined. They preferred to bring down the price.

To-day Mr. Lever shares the Treasury helm with Mr. Bonar Law. It may be doubted whether the Treasury officials are quite used yet to hearing a distinctly American accent in the second room of Whitehall, but no Financial Secretary of the Treasury has ever, more speedily, won the regard of the Treasury people. Mr. Lever is a very strong man, but he has a pleasant way with him—the way of a man who has come in contact with the world, and not the rather cloistered habit of the man who has lived his life in Whitehall.

Mr. Lever has enlisted as a volunteer for the duration of the war. He works like a nigger, says his country millions, and smilingly declines to take a farthing of pay. His view is that it is for him "to do his bit," and that he can afford to do it for nothing.

A FINAL QUESTION.

We shall await that event with confidence in the fleet. I hope we may await it with equal confidence in the Admiralty, and that Lord Curzon's more cheerful view this week as to the submarine situation will speedily be justified by results. But on this subject, which involves everything that we cherish, it is necessary to apply every test to our equipment that is legitimate. And I think it is still right to ask whether the Government are satisfied that the best capacity at the command of the nation is being used to its utmost in this supreme theatre of the war? If they are satisfied, then there is nothing more to be said. If they are not satisfied—if looking over the record of the various *régimes* at the Admiralty and contrasting the achievements under (1) Churchill-Battenberg, (2) Churchill-Fisher, (3) Balfour-Jackson, and (4) the present they feel that there is an obvious lesson to be drawn which is not drawn and not acted on, then let them ask themselves whether in the circumstances of to-day there is any consideration that can be allowed to weigh with them other than the safety of this nation.

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NOW.

DARDANELLES FAILURE. APPORTIONING THE BLAME. CHURCHILL, KITCHENER, AND FISHER.

The following is a full report of the Commissioners appointed by the Government to inquire into the operations in the Dardanelles Straits and Gallipoli Peninsula. The first part appeared in our cable columns on March 10th.

The Commissioners consisted of Earl Cromer, chairman (since dead), Field-Marshal Lord Nicholson, Lord Justice Pickford, Mr. Andrew Fisher (High Commissioner for Australia), Sir Thomas Mackenzie (High Commissioner for New Zealand), Admiral Sir W. H. May, Sir Frederick Cavley, M.P., Mr. J. Ayon Clyde, K.C., M.P., Mr. Stephen Gwynn, M.P., and Mr. W. F. Roth, M.P.

The majority finds that Mr. Winston Churchill, then First Lord of the Admiralty, initiated the proposal for attacking the Dardanelles, as laid before the War Council on November 24th, 1914, as an ideal method of defending Egypt. Russia re-opened discussion of the subject, and on January 2nd, 1915, Lord Kitchener (Secretary for War) declared that troops were unavailable. The War Council's acceptance of the plan, the Commissioners report, was unfortunate, because investigation would have revealed otherwise. Thus, on January 12th the question of whether there should be a naval action or not had to be decided. The Commissioners are of opinion that Admirals Fisher and Wilson, both of whom did not express their dissent to the proposed naval action alone, should have expressed their view if they thought that the project was impracticable from a naval point of view. They did not object, however, because they regarded the operation as experimental only. The Commissioners think that it was an obligation, first on Mr. Churchill's part, next on Mr. Asquith's, and next on the other members of the War Council, to insist upon a clear expression of expert opinion on the naval action alone, because the chances of surprise in an attack by land and sea offered such great military and political advantages that it was mistaken and ill-advised to sacrifice them by a hasty, purely naval attack, which could not itself secure the desired objects.

TROOPS DELAYED.

The decision, on February 16th, 1915, to mass troops in the neighbourhood of the Dardanelles marked a critical stage while in operation. The Commissioners consider that, inasmuch as time was all-important, no compromise was then possible between taking immediate and vigorous action to ensure success by joint naval and military operations or by falling back on the original intention of desisting from naval attack, if the experience gained during the bombardment were unsatisfactory.

Lord Kitchener decided on February 20th that the 29th Division, part of the troops which, by the decision of February 16th, were to have been sent eastward, should not be sent then, and Colonel Fitzgerald, by Lord Kitchener's order, instructed the Director of Naval Transport that the transport of this division and the rest of the expeditionary force would not be required. This was done without informing Mr. Winston Churchill. Consequently, there was a delay of three weeks in the despatch of troops, which gravely compromised the probability of the success of the original attack by the land forces, and materially increased the difficulties of the final attack.

DILATORY WAR COUNCIL.

The Commissioners consider that, in view of the opinions of naval and military authorities on the spot, the decision to abandon the naval attack after the bombardment of March 18th was unsound. They point out that there was no meeting of the War Council between March 19th and May 14th, while important land operations were undertaken. They think that, before such operations were commenced, the War Council should have reconsidered the whole position. They are of opinion that the Premier ought to have summoned a meeting of the War Council for that purpose, and, if not summoned, other members of the War Council should have pressed for such a meeting. They think that this was a serious omission.

KITCHENER UNDERTOOK TOO MUCH. The Commissioners are of opinion that Lord Kitchener did not sufficiently avail himself of the services of his General Staff, with the result that he undertook more work than it was possible for one man to do, causing confusion and want of efficiency. They are unable to concur in Lord Fisher's view that it was his duty, if he differed from Mr. Churchill, to maintain silence at the Council or resign, but think that the adoption of any such principle generally would impair the efficiency of the public services. Although the main object was not attained, certain important political advantages were secured by the expedition, but whether those advantages were worth the loss of life and pressure involved must remain a matter of opinion.

UNWISDOMLY CABINET CONTROL.

From the commencement of war until November 25th, 1914, no change was made in the machinery for the superior conduct of the naval and military operations. This machinery consisted of a Cabinet assisted by the Committee of Imperial Defence, with the War Office and Admiralty acting as executive agents. It must have been obvious from the first that it was a far too numerous control to effectively conduct the war. It is regrettable that this rudimentary fact was not recognised immediately after the outbreak of war. Thus for four months, when events of the utmost importance were occurring, the machinery for the higher operations was both clumsy and inefficient. Eventually an improvement was effected.

The Cabinet appears to have been generally informed of any important decisions taken by the War Council, but not until Executive steps had been taken to give whole or partial effect to the

council's decisions. This was what happened over the naval and military operations in the Dardanelles. Some members of the Cabinet did not wish to be informed of what was going on. Mr. Churchill, during examination, said, "I often heard Cabinet say it did not wish to be told of this secret matter, and the fewer knowing about it the better."

The report adds that the members very rightly were content to delegate the full powers of Cabinet to their colleagues on the War Council.

THE REAL RESPONSIBILITY.

Mr. McKenna (then Chancellor of the Exchequer), in his evidence, confirmed this delegation of power. Distinction has to be made between the real responsibility devolving upon several Ministers who were members of the War Council, and Lord Kitchener, who was not. Lord Kitchener, undoubtedly, had a great influence, but the main responsibility rested with Mr. Asquith, Lord Kitchener, and Mr. Churchill. The latter, in his evidence, said: "In the early stages of the war was carried on by Mr. Asquith, Lord Kitchener, and me, but I was on rather a different plane. I had not the same authority as Mr. Asquith or Lord Kitchener. If they said this or that should be done that settled it."

EXPERTS DISCARDED.

The Commission finds this description of the working of the machine substantially correct, save that Mr. Churchill probably assigned to himself a more obtrusive part than he actually played. There was a distinction between the War Office and Admiralty. Lord Kitchener acted very much as his own Chief of Staff. He (Lieut.-Col. Wolfe-Murray) was never asked to express any opinion. With the Admiralty it was different. Mr. Churchill was not an expert, and Admirals Fisher and Wilson acted as experts. Admiral Fisher explained that neither he, Admiral Wilson, nor Lieut.-Col. Wolfe-Murray were members of the War Council. "We are," he said, "experts who only opened our mouths when told." They were never asked anything about the Dardanelles. Admiral Wilson confirmed Lord Fisher's statement.

Mr. Winston Churchill, in his evidence, declared that his naval colleagues had the right and power to correct him or dissent from his views, and were fully cognisant of their rights. Viscount Grey stated that the War Council went entirely in naval and military matters by the opinions expressed by the two Ministers. Mr. Balfour expressed the opinion that if the experts did not express their views it would be inferred that they assented. He did not think they should remain silent. The military experts stood on a different footing, because Lord Kitchener was an expert. He, however, thought the Cabinet President should have facilitated the experts to assent or dissent by asking them.

CONFLICT OF AUTHORITY.

Lord Haldane said he would expect Admiral Fisher, if he had objections, to have stated them. He did not concur in Admiral Fisher's view of the War Council. Lord Kitchener thought the political members of the council did too much talking, and the experts too little. Mr. Lloyd George also disagreed with Admiral Fisher's view. None of the Junior Sea Lords were consulted about the Dardanelles. Commander Lamberton expressed the opinion that the Admiralty Board was a proper subject for the Admiralty Board's discussion. On November 22nd, 1915, the Junior Sea Lords submitted a minute to Mr. Balfour that the principle that the supremacy of the First Lord is complete and unassailable had been pushed too far and would tend to imperil the national safety.

NO CO-ORDINATION.

The Commissioners are convinced that the naval members of the board been regularly and collectively consulted on large questions of war policy during the present naval campaign, some at least of the events which the Empire is bitterly deploring would not have happened; that the authority and responsibility of the Sea Lords is enlarged and definite; there can be no adequate assurance that similar disasters will not recur. Mr. Churchill agreed that the four Sea Lords should be fully consulted, but Prince Louis of Battenberg and Admiral Fisher did not favour the suggestion. The Commission found that Mr. Asquith was ill-informed of the way in which Admiralty business was being conducted when he told the Commission that the War Council was entitled to assume that any view submitted by the First Lord was the considered opinion of the Admiralty Board.

Regarding War Office administration, the Commissioners think it regrettable that the devolution of authority and responsibility on which the War Office was based was ignored by Lord Kitchener. All the evidence points to Lord Kitchener not having consulted his subordinates, and having given orders over the chiefs of departments. He centralised the whole administration in his own hands. When an Order-in-Council at a later stage of the war had restored the power of the Chief of the General Staff, Sir Reginald Brade (Assistant Secretary to the War Office) was of the opinion that this was due to Lord Kitchener's not asking, or disregarding, the advice of the General Staff. Lord Kitchener pushed centralisation to extremes. Though it had proved eminently successful in the Sudan, it was unsuitable to large scale operations, and threw work on the hands of one man, with which no individual could successfully cope.

BOMBARDMENT A MISTAKE.

Dealing with the narrative of Dardanelles events, the Commissioners concur with Admiral Jackson that the bombardment on November 3rd was a mistake and calculated to place the Turks on the alert. The order emanated solely from the Admiralty, and the War Council was not consulted. On November 26th, Mr. Churchill suggested an attack on Gallipoli, which gave control to the Dardanelles, and would enable them to dictate terms at Constantinople. He admitted that

the operation was difficult, and would require a large force. Lord Kitchener agreed that it might be necessary to make a diversion by attacking the Turkish communications, but the moment had not arrived.

RUSSIA'S REQUEST.

On January 2nd, 1915, the Russians were somewhat hard pressed in the Caucasus, and Russia asked for a demonstration against the Turks, in order to relieve the pressure. The Foreign Office sent a telegram, drafted by the War Office, stating that a demonstration would be made, though it was feared that any action would not seriously affect the withdrawal of enemy troops from the Caucasus. Mr. Asquith and Mr. Churchill did not see the telegram, though the latter thought that Lord Kitchener's reply was the outcome of a conversation he had with him. Lord Kitchener, writing to Mr. Churchill, said he had not the troops to land anywhere, and that the only place for a demonstration was the Dardanelles. "But we will not be ready for anything big for some months," he added. The Commissioners are of opinion that, although Lord Kitchener was pressed for a demonstration, it did not necessarily involve an attempt to force the passage.

FORCING THE STRAITS.

The proper conclusion seems to be, the Commissioners say, that when a demonstration appeared to be necessary Mr. Churchill thought it possible to convert it into an attempt to force a passage. As Lord Kitchener's new army was not ready, and he had to provide for home defence, he was unwilling to withdraw a single man from France. Mr. Churchill's views as to the success of purely naval operation were more optimistic than warranted by experts' opinion. Therefore Lord Kitchener, grasped the opportunity to use the fleet eagerly at the proposal to force the passage, but the responsibility rested rather on Mr. Churchill. The latter alleged the marvellous potentialities of the Queen Elizabeth, whose astounding effectiveness would revolutionise naval warfare.

Admiral Carden, replying to a telegram asking whether it was practicable to force the Dardanelles by ships alone, said he did not think the Straits could be rushed, but they might be forced by extended operations with a large number of ships. Mr. Churchill replied: "High authorities concur in your opinion." Admiral Carden supposed that the high authorities meant Lord Fisher and Admiral Jackson. The former did not see the reply, and the latter could not remember whether he was consulted. Admiral Carden suggested the methodical destruction of the Dardanelles and the Narrows defences. An advance into the Sea of Marmora, he estimated, would take a month to complete. Admiral Jackson agreed to attack the forts, but considered it not feasible for the fleet to get through the Dardanelles alone. Admiral Oliver thought that by the time the fleet had overcome the initial difficulties the military force would have been ready. Generally speaking, the Admiralty staff preferred a joint operation. The Commission thinks that the War Council, in its action, was probably governed excessively by the fact that the entry to the Dardanelles operations would have a profound effect on the course of the war, and it therefore neglected to ascertain whether it was advisable to undertake a purely naval enterprise. It is highly probable that if Lord Kitchener or Admiral Fisher had objected upon technical grounds the project would have been abandoned. Mr. Asquith stated that Admiral Fisher's main objection was not based on the naval merits or demerits of the Dardanelles operation, but upon the fact that he preferred another objective.

LORD FISHER'S RESIGNATION.

The Commissioners state that the evidence confirms the accuracy of Mr. Asquith's statement. Lord Fisher reluctantly acquiesced in the Dardanelles operation as long as he thought it would not seriously interfere with his plans elsewhere. It may be conceived that the demands made upon the fleet for the Dardanelles prejudiced his alternative schemes, and he resigned. Although Lord Fisher in his evidence said that he was dead against a naval operation alone, he did not, at the time express any such decided opinions. The actual decision was arrived at by the War Council on January 13th after hearing Lord Kitchener and Mr. Churchill, who were asked for their views, and Lieut.-Colonel Wolfe-Murray remained silent. It was couched as follows:—

Naval expedition, February. Take Gallipoli, with Constantinople as the objective.

WANT OF PRECISION.

The Commissioners add that it is impossible to read all the evidence and papers without being struck with the atmosphere of vagueness and want of precision which characterised the War Council's proceedings. It is almost inconceivable that any one, whether military, naval, or civilian, could have imagined that Constantinople could be captured without military help on a somewhat large scale. In the case of the Dardanelles, the reduction of the forts presented difficulties more hazardous than at Port Arthur and Wei-hai-wei, while the narrow waters lent themselves to be defended by mines and torpedoes.

CHURCHILL TOO SANGUINE.

Referring to Mr. Churchill's presentation of the enterprise to the War Council, the Commissioners, without impugning his good faith, say it seems clear that he was carried away by his sanguine temperament and firm belief in the undertaking. The evidence shows that he obtained the experts' support to a less extent than he imagined. It is also clear that Admiral Carden greatly under-estimated the Turkish opposition. Lord Kitchener held the opinion that once the ships got through the position at Gallipoli would cease to be important. Moreover, he and others, including Viscount Grey, confidently anticipated a revolution in Constantinople when the fleet entered the Sea of Marmora. Then the idea of a purely naval operation gradually dropped, and we drifted into a big military attack. Lord Kitchener on May 14th said he realised that if the fleet failed, the army would need to help the

navy through, and on February 16th an informal meeting of Ministers decided to despatch the 29th Division.

KITCHENER'S RESPONSIBILITY. Acute discussions took place at the War Council between February 16th and 23rd, and Lord Kitchener's views underwent a change. There was now no chance of breaking off the Dardanelles attack. A sharp difference occurred on February 20th between Lord Kitchener and Mr. Churchill owing to the decision not to send the 29th Division. Lord Kitchener held that the naval division with the Austrians and New Zealanders from Egypt would be adequate. Lord Kitchener still thought that the fleet would get through. Lieutenant-General Birdwood, on March 5th, telegraphed to Lord Kitchener:—

"Very doubtful the Navy can force the passage unassisted. In any case it will take a considerable time. Admiral's forecast too sanguine."

Then Lord Kitchener decided to despatch the 29th Division, but three weeks' valuable time had been lost. Lord Kitchener was mainly responsible for the decisions, although, if he were alive, he might throw new light upon them. It is strange that the actualities of the situation should not have been more fully realised by Lord Kitchener and his colleagues. There were only two alternatives, either to face the loss of prestige by abandoning the Dardanelles or boldly face the risk which would have been involved elsewhere by a rapid combined attack in great strength. Unfortunately the Government stopped neither. For three weeks the Government vacillated, the moment for action lapsed, and the Turks were enabled to fortify their position. Mr. Churchill was justified in attaching importance to the delays in despatching the 29th Division.

TOO MUCH UNCERTAINTY.

Even when General Sir Ian Hamilton, on the eve of his departure from London, conferred with Lord Kitchener, it was abundantly clear that the scope of the operations had not been fully decided. General Hamilton, in his evidence, dwelt strongly on the absence of information by the War Office staff. No scheme had been drawn up, there were no water supply arrangements, and there was a great want of staff preparation. Lord Kitchener still clung to getting through without military aid. General Hamilton went out with that impression. He took Lord Kitchener's telegram that the passage of the Dardanelles must be forced as peremptory. Admiral de Robeck, in his evidence, said that he realised that it would only be possible for the fleet to stay in the Sea of Marmora if a revolution broke out in Constantinople. Otherwise it would have to come out again. It would have been difficult anyway for the transports to follow up the Straits. The Commission thought that it was clear that Admiral de Robeck's opinion had been greatly influenced by political considerations and the loss of prestige if the attack were abandoned. General Hamilton on March 19th telegraphed to Lord Kitchener:—

"Am reluctantly convinced that battleships are unlikely to force the passage. If the army is to participate the operations will not assume the subsidiary form anticipated."

Owing to General Hamilton's and Admiral de Robeck's representations of March 23rd the operations were postponed until adequate military forces had been assembled.

EFFECTS OF CAMPAIGN.

The Commission finds that although the attempt to force the Dardanelles was a failure, it was fairly successful in relieving the pressure on Russia, while it delayed the earlier entry of Bulgaria into the war and kept a large force of Turks a long while immobilised.

MR. FISHER'S MINUTE.

Mr. Andrew Fisher, Australian representative, attacked a minute dissenting from certain passages in the report. He states that he disagrees with the view that the naval advisers should have expressed their views to the Council, whether they were asked or not, if they considered the Council's project impracticable from a naval aspect. He disagrees also with the commission's inability to concur with Lord Fisher's view that he should maintain silence or resign. Mr. Fisher expresses the opinion that it would be the fate of responsible government if State servants shared the responsibility of Ministers.

Sir Thomas Mackenzie (New Zealand representative) declared that it is premature for the report to express an opinion as to the general results. Sufficient evidence had not been taken to enable a decision to be made on the objects attained. It was necessary that there should be a complete inquiry into subsidiary operations to secure a true perspective. He agrees with Mr. Andrew Fisher regarding experts giving their views without being asked.

The report was signed by all the members of the Commission, except Mr. Roth.

MINORITY REPORT.

LORD FISHER AND MR. CHURCHILL. In a lengthy minority report Mr. Roth, M.P., states that the forcing of the Dardanelles had been considered when Lord Fisher commanded the Mediterranean Fleet, and later, when Lord Fisher became First Sea Lord in the latter part of 1914, he would be decidedly against naval or military action.

On December 25th, 1914, Lieut.-Col. Sir Maurice Hankey, Secretary to the Committee of Imperial Defence, circulated a memorandum to the War Council suggesting that Germany could be struck most effectively through Turkey.

In January, 1915, Mr. Lloyd George, in a memorandum, outlined a far-reaching policy against Austria in co-operation with the Greeks, Roumanians, and Serbians; also the withdrawal of substantial forces from France.

Admiral Jackson presented to Mr. Churchill a memorandum against the possibility of rushing the Dardanelles, showing the losses that would be involved in even reaching the Straits. Admirals Fisher, Wilson, and Oliver (Chief of the Admiralty War Staff) expressed objections to a naval attack, but after the War Council meeting on January 13th they commenced working out details for the eventual reduction of the forts by naval bombardment.

(Continued at foot of next column.)

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(b) VILLANELLE ... Dell'Acqua

Duet... Between MICHAEL and DON JOSE (1st Act Carmen) ... Bizet

Piano Solo... WEDDING DAY ... Grieg

Songs... (a) SYLVEIN ... Sliding

(b) J'ai pleuré en rêve ... Sparks

(c) MORNING ... PAUL DUBAULT

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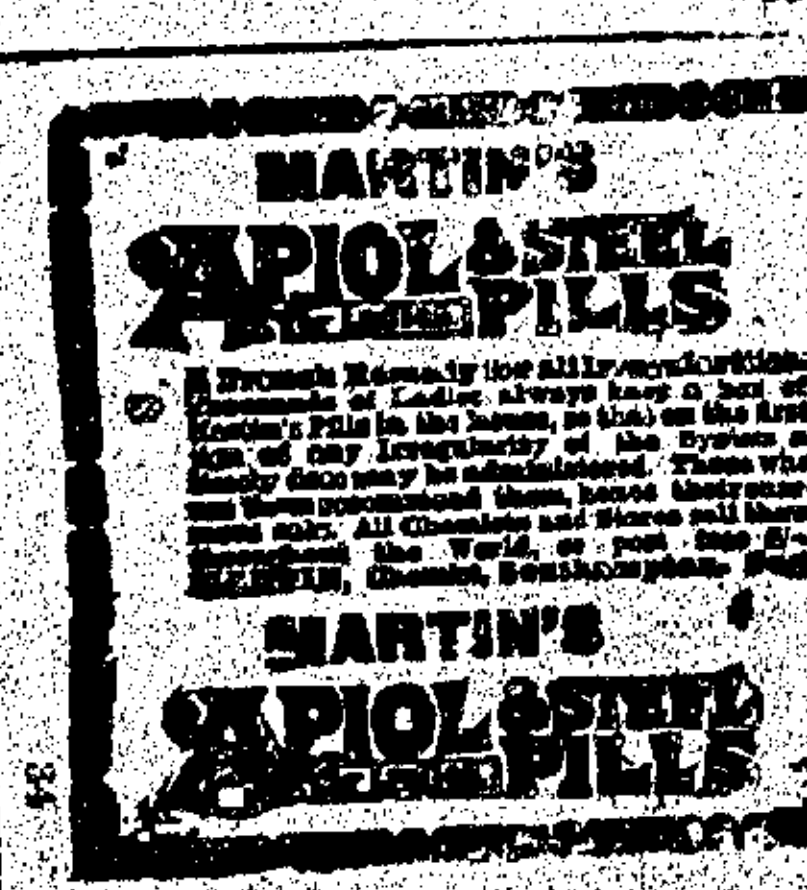


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fully to the War Council the opinions of his naval advisers, and Mr. Churchill failed to consult the Board of Admiralty. Mr. Roth decides that important political advantages were gained by the first success of the naval attack, and strongly urges that similar operations in the future should be thoroughly considered by the joint naval and military staff.

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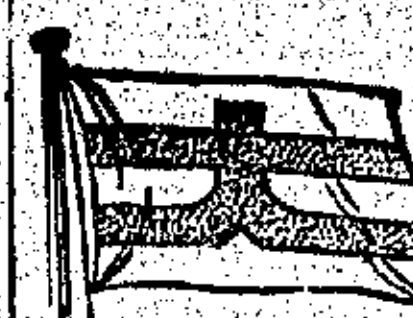
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